[*Translation*]

Rail link to Pilibhit

1851. DR. PARSHURAM GANGWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme was formulated to connect Pilibhit with broad gauge line; and

(b) if so, the time by which the said project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Pending Power Projects of Uttar Pradesh

1852. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the thermal power projects of Uttar Pradesh pending for clearance;

(b) the decision taken thereon; and

(c) if no decision has been taken, the time by which clearance is likely to be given to these projects and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The proposals for setting up of Belthara Road TPP (3 × 210 MW), Jagdishpur Gas based Combined Cycle Power Project (210 MW) and Shahjahanpur Gas based combined cycle power project (600 MW) in Uttar Pradesh received from Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board (UPSEB) are pending in Central Electricity Authority.

(b) and (c) In regard to Belthara Road TPP, UPSEB intimated CEA in July, 1990 that they are revising the capacity of the project to 3 × 250 MW. The revised project report has not been received. In regard to gas based power projects at Jagdishpur and Shahjahanpur, the linkage of gas is not tied-up. Further, for Shahjahanpur Gas based power project, the necessary statutory clearances such as compliance of Section 29 of E (S) Act, 1948, water availability clearance from Central Water Commission, environmental clearances, are also not tied-up. These projects can be considered for techno-economic clearance only after all the necessary inputs are tied-up by the UPSEB.

Expansion of Air India and Indian Airlines

1853. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up schemes for the expansion of the Air India and Indian Airlines during 1990;

(b) if so, the total expenditure likely to be incurred thereon; and

(c) the extent of improvement likely to be made in these two airlines as a result of implementation of the above schemes?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) As of now Indian Airlines is due to acquire 12 more A-320 aircraft under the supplementary purchase agreement of 5th June 1989.

There is a proposal for acquisition of four Boeing 747-400 aircraft for Air India at an estimated cost of Rs. 1962.09 crores including a foreign exchange component of US $ 667-09 million.

The acquisition of these aircraft will modernise the fleet of the two airlines to a certain extent and also enhance the capacity offered by them.